



Middle School on Stage

Sixty-one Middle School students undaunted by the snow storm of the century gave two heart-stopping performances of Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. They were originally scheduled for the usual four performances including an alumni night until Mother Nature swept in with snow in early February. Instead each cast packed all the energy of those performances into one performance per cast.



Alumni Hall came alive with a contemporary interpretation of the Biblical saga. The narrators looked suspiciously like The Supremes. Captain Potiphar resembled Major Tom at ground control, and the Pharaoh -- well, let's just say the king has left the building! A country western rendition of One More Angel in Heaven but Joseph's brothers in cowboy hats. The young dancers took a trip back in time with a Go-Go dance number.



The performances are the culmination of months of work. Students who want to audition for a part have the opportunity to attend audition classes to help polish their voices and dance steps. Joseph is unusual among musicals in that it contains only vocal parts so everyone sang.



Everyone who auditioned was cast, and those interested in behind the scenes work became part of the tech crew. These full-scale productions provide students an opportunity to learn about lighting, sound, special effects, and then take responsibility for all technical matters during the performances.



The experience was made even more "professional" on our professional-sized stage and the musical support of a pit orchestra featuring professional musicians, parents, alumni, and students. Some of these musicians have been part of the musical tradition for well over fifteen years.



Productions in past years have included *Bye, Bye Birdie*, *Peter Pan*, *Annie*, *Wizard of Oz*, *Music Man*, and *Guys and Dolls*. Musicals are selected for the number of parts and the types of parts. Part of the success of the musical comes from the experience of the Indian Creek musical faculty to cast students in parts well-suited to their talents.



Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat with Lyrics by Tim Rice and music by Andrew Lloyd Webber is a Biblical saga about Joseph and his coat of many colors. Blessed with prophetic dreams and as his father's favorite son, Joseph is sold into slavery by his jealous brothers and taken to Egypt. The musical tells the story of Joseph and his reconciliation with the sons of Israel.

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized performance materials are supplied by The Rodgers and Hammerstein Music Library. Produced by Greg Bush with Music Direction by Jill Woodward, Stage Direction by Aaron Kleffman, and Choreography by Anne Crossman – all members of the Indian Creek Faculty.